

BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING

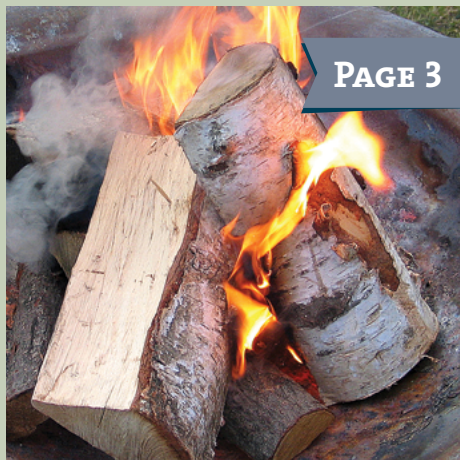


JUNE 2014

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MAKING CONNECTIONS THAT ENCOURAGE HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVING

Being healthy and active is much easier when there are a variety of parks and trails available for use nearby. The City continues to update and revitalize its parks and trails through focused plans and implementation. This includes an update to the Alternative Transportation Plan.

Since the original plan was adopted in 2008, the City and agencies such as the Metropolitan Council, Hennepin County, Three Rivers Park District and others have initiated numerous projects that have furthered bicycle and pedestrian transportation in and around Bloomington. The Alternative Transportation Plan update will acknowledge work done over the past five years and provide direction for future implementation and maintenance efforts.

A master plan is also being created for the Minnesota River Valley, where the City owns and maintains more than 1,000 acres of land. Work on the plan began in early 2014 and will continue through fall 2014. The key goals of the plan are to enhance access, increase awareness of the area, and ensure that trails and water bodies are protected. An open house to gather public input on the plan will be scheduled later this summer.

Hyland Trail

Construction began this spring on the Hyland Trail, a new bike and pedestrian trail linking Hyland Park to the Bloomington Ferry Bridge. The trail will complete a missing north-south link in the regional trail system, completing a trail from Shakopee to Normandale Lake in Bloomington. The trail segment is expected to be completed by fall 2014. The April *Briefing* incorrectly noted that the trail is being partially funded by a \$1 million federal grant. The Hyland Trail is being funded by a \$540,000 federal transportation grant and a \$150,000 Department of Natural Resources Trails Grant.

New regional trail

Construction of a seven-mile long, paved regional trail from Lake Nokomis Parkway in Minneapolis through Richfield and down Old Cedar Avenue to the 86th Street bikeway in Bloomington will also begin late this summer. The trail is a partnership among Three Rivers Park District and the cities of Bloomington, Richfield and Minneapolis. Future plans call for continuing the trail down Old Cedar Avenue to the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge over Long Meadow Lake, which is slated for reconstruction beginning in 2015.

For more information on Bloomington's many hiking and biking trails, pick up a copy of the *Active Living Biking and Hiking Guide* at the Parks and Recreation counter at Bloomington Civic Plaza or visit the City's website. For more information on the Alternative Transportation Plan, contact Parks and Recreation Manager Randy Quale at 952-563-8876 or email parksrec@BloomingtonMN.gov.

PLAYGROUND UPDATES COMING

Reconstruction of a combination tennis and pickleball court at Indian Mounds School, 9801 11th Avenue South, and reconstruction of the tennis courts at the Valley View Playfields, 9000 Portland Avenue South, will take place this summer. The City will also be replacing aging playground equipment at DuPont Playlot, 8807 Dupont Avenue South, and Hampshire Hills Park, 10601 Louisiana Avenue South.



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FARMERS MARKET SATURDAYS

The Bloomington Farmers Market is visited by more than 3,000 people each Saturday over the summer. Visit the City's website to watch Civic Plaza's east parking lot transform from an empty lot to a vibrant, bustling market in a special time-lapse video. The 8th annual Farmers Market opens **Saturday, June 7**, with fresh, locally grown food, cooking demonstrations and kids' activities. The Market is held at Bloomington Civic Plaza every Saturday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., through October 11. Credit cards and EBT food support cards are now accepted.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: FARMERS MARKET.





DID YOU KNOW?

Normandale Lake was created in 1979 as a flood protection project. The lake is shallow enough for aquatic plants to grow over the entire lake bed.



KEEPING NORMANDALE LAKE BEAUTIFUL



In order to keep Normandale Lake healthy as well as beautiful, the City continues to collect water quality data and monitor the lake’s overall condition. In 2008, the City petitioned Nine Mile Creek Watershed District for a water quality improvement project to address curlyleaf pondweed, an invasive aquatic plant species that contributes to increased phosphorus concentrations in the lake. However, recent lake monitoring data indicated improved water quality. In fact, data indicate lake water quality improves as water progresses through the lake from the inlet at 84th Street to the outlet at Normandale Boulevard.

This summer, City employees will work closely with the Watershed District to perform additional sampling of Normandale Lake. In an ongoing effort to control the presence of curlyleaf pondweed and other nuisance aquatic vegetation, twice a year Normandale Lake is treated with aquatic herbicides under a permit from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Minnesota state law specifically prohibits the destruction of aquatic plants for aesthetic reasons alone, such as foul odor or unpleasant appearance.

For more information, visit the City’s website or contact Engineering at 952-563-4870.

AROUND THE CITY

LOCAL OUTREACH DIRECTOR HONORED

At an April City Council meeting, Mayor Gene Winstead and Advisory Board of Health Chairperson Greg Harms presented Ruth Evangelista, at right, with the 2014 Health Promotion Award. Evangelista is director of La Misión, an outreach center based at Church of the Assumption in Richfield dedicated to improving the health and welfare of community members. Evangelista is the leader of many programs and services that support the health and wellness of approximately 5,000 Spanish- and English-speaking Bloomington and Richfield residents each year.

The Health Promotion Award recognizes an individual, business or organization that has made a positive difference in the health and wellness of Bloomington residents. For more information, call Public Health at 952-563-8900.



SEALCOATING YOUR ASPHALT DRIVEWAY?

Whether you plan to seal your own driveway or hire a contractor, be advised of a new law to protect our environment from harmful chemicals contained in coal tar-based driveway sealcoats. Effective January 2014, the sale and use of coal tar-based sealcoats are banned in all of Minnesota. The ban minimizes the release of harmful and persistent chemicals into our environment. The coal tar-based sealcoat ban is expected to reduce by 70 percent the release of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), a possible carcinogen. In addition to the potential health risks of PAHs, there are significant costs for cities and property owners to dispose of sediment in stormwater ponds that is contaminated by PAHs.

If you plan on hiring a contractor to sealcoat your driveway this summer, be sure that the material used does not contain coal tar.

For more information, visit the City’s website.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: SEALCOATING.



HOME IMPROVEMENT SEMINARS

The Housing and Redevelopment Authority will host three home improvement seminars this summer at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. Each seminar begins at 7 p.m. No registration required. Door prizes will be awarded. Visit the City’s website for details.

June 5 – Landscaping and pest control
July 10 – LED light selection and installation
August 7 – Choosing and installing the right tile

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: HOME SEMINARS.

BRIEFING

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The *Briefing*, published bimonthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to our residents and businesses. Direct comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer disk to Communications Administrator Janine Hill, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027; PH 952-563-8819; TTY: 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; E-mail: jhill@BloomingtonMN.gov
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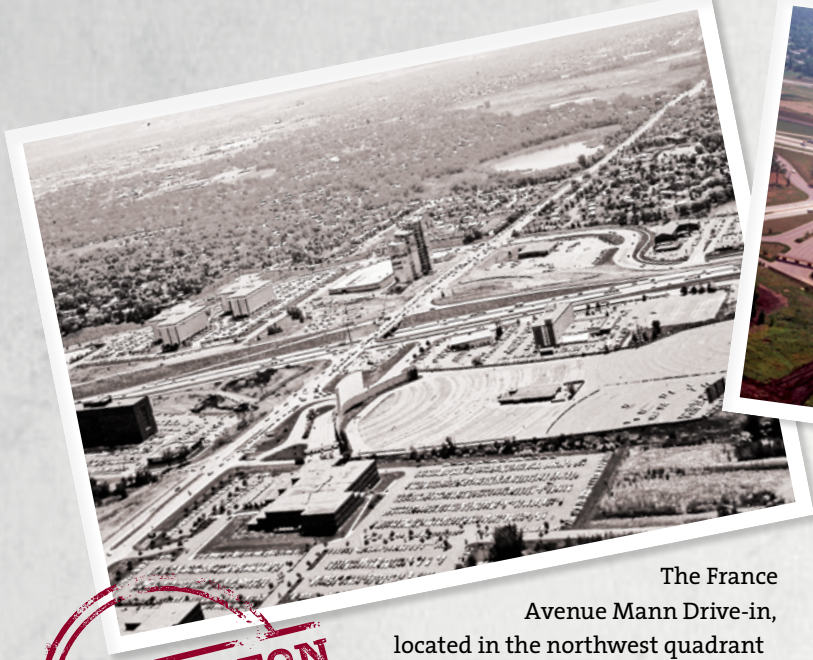
Elected officials presented for informational purposes.

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The City of Bloomington complies with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs, and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. For more information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733 (Voice); 952-563-8740 (TTY).
Upon request, this information can be available in Braille, large print, audio tape and/or electronic format.



The France Avenue Mann Drive-in, located in the northwest quadrant of France and I-494, was a popular Bloomington destination from 1966 until the early 1980s. The drive-in had a capacity of 1,700 cars – pretty big for a drive-in.



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NEWS YOU CAN USE

LET WILD ANIMALS FIND THEIR OWN FOOD

Did you know the City Code prohibits the feeding of wild animals in Bloomington? Feeding animals can quickly become a nuisance when feral cats, raccoons and other animals become frequent visitors. Aside from destroying lawns and gardens, some wild animals can quickly multiply. In addition, whenever wild animals become accustomed to humans feeding them, they learn that humans equal food. When wild animals think that approaching humans won't bring them harm, there is always the risk they will approach the wrong human or even a child.

The ordinance also helps prevent issues with predator wildlife such as coyotes and wild turkeys that may become aggressive during breeding season. It does not apply to feeding song birds with seed mixtures, which may be used in traditional feeders hung from trees. There are also no restrictions on the type of food that may be used, as long as the food is hung from a feeder at least five feet from the ground.

For more information, call Bloomington Animal Control at 952-953-4942.



HUMAN SERVICES EVENTS

FREEDOM RIDERS EXHIBIT COMING TO CIVIC PLAZA

The Human Rights Commission hosts the Guilder Lehrman Institute of American History exhibit, *Freedom Riders*, **June 23 - July 7**, at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. The exhibit features powerful accounts of how the Freedom Riders challenged the racially segregated communities of the south. Also at Civic Plaza, don't miss "Music Through the Struggle," civil rights reflections through storytelling, song and lecture, **Thursday, June 26, 6:30 - 8 p.m.**

ONE SUMMER NIGHT SENIOR DANCE

Enjoy an evening of dinner and dancing on **Saturday, June 28, 5:30 - 9 p.m.**, at the Knights of Columbus Marian Hall, 1114 American Boulevard West. The event includes a pasta buffet and the music of Tim Patrick and his Blue Eyes Band. Tickets are \$20 for individuals; \$35 for couples. Dance-only tickets may be purchased for \$10. For more information, call 952-563-4944 or visit Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South.

This event is cosponsored by Miracle Ear, US Federal Credit Union and the *Sun Current*.



ON PATROL

FOCUS ON YOUR DRIVING WHEN BEHIND THE WHEEL

Each year in Minnesota, distracted driving is a factor in one in four crashes, resulting in at least 70 deaths and 350 serious injuries. Moreover, the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety estimates these numbers are vastly underreported. Any activity that might distract drivers from the primary task of driving and increases their risk of crashing is distracted driving.

Facts about distracted driving

- Drivers spend more than half their driving time focused on things other than driving.
- Texting and phone calls aren't the only distractions. Passengers, eating, and other in-car technologies can also cause distractions.
- It is illegal for drivers to compose, read, or send electronic messages or access the Internet on a wireless device when a vehicle is in motion or part of traffic.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BOOK 'EM IS BACK!

The Bloomington Crime Prevention Association's (BCPA) 20th Annual Book 'em used book sale will be held **June 7 - 24**, at The Shops at Lyndale, 810 West 78th Street in Richfield. Proceeds from the sale help fund crime prevention and awareness programs, the Bloomington Police Explorers and the Bloomington Police Department.

For more information, call 952-220-2537 or visit the BCPA's website at www.bcpamn.org.

A NIGHT TO REUNITE

The 31st annual National Night Out celebration takes place **Tuesday, August 5**. Don't miss this chance to connect with your neighbors and show your support for local law enforcement and anti-crime efforts.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: NNO.



RECREATIONAL FIRES REMINDER

A recreational fire is an outdoor fire used for cooking, warming or ceremonial purposes. When burning a recreational fire in your yard, use common sense, remember to be considerate of your neighbors and follow the City ordinance.

- Recreational fires may only be conducted between 7 a.m. and midnight and when the wind speed is less than 10 miles per hour. A fire must be extinguished immediately if a City official determines it is creating a fire safety hazard.
 - Fires must be located at least 25 feet away from any structures or combustible materials and constantly attended to by a person within sight of the flames.
 - Fire extinguishing equipment must be readily available.
 - Only use dry, clean wood such as cordwood or Presto logs.
 - Burning wood that has leaves or needles, or wood that is rotten, wet, or treated with paint or glue is prohibited by ordinance.
 - Starter fuels may be used, but never use gasoline or other flammable liquids to start a fire.
 - The fire stack must not exceed three-feet wide by two-feet high.
- For more information, contact Fire Marshal Laura McCarthy at 952-563-8967.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: RECREATIONAL FIRES.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Don't miss the following special summer events at the Bloomington Family Aquatic Center (BFAC) and Bush Lake Beach.

BOB THE BEACHCOMBER

Bring the kids to see Bob the Beachcomber, **Sunday, July 27, 2 - 4 p.m.**, at BFAC, 201 East 90th Street.

MOVIE NIGHT AT BFAC

Enjoy the classic film "Dirty Dancing" at Bush Lake Beach, **Saturday, July 12, 8:30 p.m.**

ARTS IN THE PARKS

Make it a summer to remember. Head over to your local Bloomington parks for the best in music, dance, food, film and family entertainment. For more information, or in the case of inclement weather, call Bloomington Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8878.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: AIP.

NORMANDALE LAKE PERFORMANCE SERIES

The following performances take place at Normandale Lake Bandshell, 84th Street and Chalet Road. All shows begin at 7 p.m. Bring your appetite! There will be a variety of food and drink options at summer Blockbusters highlighted below with fork and spoon icons.

TUE
June 10

Minnesota Symphonic Winds

Considered one of the finest concert bands in the state, the Minnesota Symphonic Winds will kick off the Normandale Lake Performance Series with fine classical music.

TUE
June 17

Bend in the River Big Band

Enjoy the sounds of swinging jazz with the Bend in the River Big Band.

THUR
June 19

Lehto & Wright featuring Todd Menton

Steven Lehto and John Wright perform powerful, guitar-driven music based on traditional songs from the British Isles.

TUE
June 24

Medalist Concert Band

The Medalist Concert Band is a Bloomington favorite. Don't miss this Bloomington-based band play some of the finest concert music you'll ever hear.

THUR
June 26

British Invasion



The Sensational Sleepers pay tribute to fab British bands of the 1960s including The Yardbirds, The Animals, The Kinks, and The Beatles.

TUE
July 8

Rum River Brass Band

The Rum River Brass Band plays an eclectic repertoire, including jazz, ragtime, pop, Dixieland and more.

THUR
July 10

80s Music Explosion



Break out your jelly shoes and hairspray! Brat Pack Radio is back to play all of your dance-pop favorites and R&B hits from the 1980s.

TUE
July 15

Eden Prairie Community Band

The Eden Prairie Community Band is more than 50 musicians strong. The group is home for the Prairie Schooners and a number of woodwind and brass ensembles.

THUR
July 17

Monroe Crossing



Monroe Crossing dazzles audiences with an electrifying blend of classic bluegrass, bluegrass gospel and heartfelt originals.

TUE
July 22

Jason and the Q

Jason and the Q is a four-piece jazz outfit, featuring some of the finest jazz musicians in the Twin Cities.

THUR
July 24

Latin Music Night



Salsa del Soul performs a variety of dance music from the Spanish-speaking regions of the Caribbean, including Son Montuno, Plena, Cha-cha-cha, Bachata, Timba, and of course, Salsa!

TUE
July 29

Everett Smithson Band

The Everett Smithson Band features some of the best zydeco, blues, rockin roots and gospel you'll hear out side of New Orleans.

THUR
July 31

Suburban Country



With an inimitable blend of the country, rock, blues and folk genres, Maiden Dixie guarantees an exciting and enthusiastic live performance that is sure to get your feet tapping.

TUE
Aug 5

Jack Norton and the Mullet River Boys

The Mullet River Boys are musical purveyors of vintage vaudeville, jug band and ragtime bluegrass music that is sure to get you moving.

THUR
Aug 7

Blues and Bar-B-Q



The C-Notes take to the stage at 7 p.m., at the annual Blues and Bar-B-Q festival, followed by The Groove Merchants featuring Jimi "Primetime" Smith. Come ready to groove and eat!



MONDAY MORNING KIDS SERIES

Make your Mondays more enjoyable with the Monday Morning Kids Series. Bring the kids to Moir Park, 2298 West 104th Street, for awesome entertainment. All shows begin at 10:30 a.m.

June 16 – MN Zoomobile

June 23 – Tricia and the Toonies

June 30 – Sticks and Tones

July 7 – Wiggle, Jiggle & Jam

July 14 – Jack Pearson

July 21 – Dazzling Dave

July 28 – Rachael Kroog

August 4– Zinghoppers



MOONLIGHT MOVIES IN THE PARK

Why watch movies indoors when you can view them on our 30-foot outdoor movie screen at Normandale Lake Bandshell.

June and July movies begin at 9 p.m.

August movies begin at 8:30 p.m.

Don't forget to bring a blanket!

June 13 – "Despicable Me 2"

June 20 – "American Graffiti"

June 27 – "Frozen"

July 11 – "Monsters University"

July 12 – "Dirty Dancing" (at Bush Lake Beach)

July 18 – "Pitch Perfect"

July 25 – "Jurassic Park"

August 1 – "Back to the Future"

August 8 – "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire"

August 15 – "Gravity"



SUMMER FETE 2014



Bloomington's annual Independence Day celebration is scheduled for **Thursday, July 3, 5 p.m.**, at Normandale Lake Bandshell. This year, Jonah and the Whales and the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra will perform on the main stage. The 84th Street Kids' Stage will welcome Tricia and the Toonies and the Zinghoppers. The Kids' Carnival begins at 5 p.m. Fireworks begin at dusk.

For a complete schedule of events, visit the City's website. To make a donation or order a t-shirt, look for the envelope in your utility bill or call 952-563-8693.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: SUMMER FETE.



SANDCASTLES

Calling all competitors! Get creative with sand at the annual Sandcastles competition at Bush Lake Beach, **Sunday, June 29, noon - 3 p.m.**

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA BAND

The John Philip Sousa Band will perform **Sunday, June 22, 7 p.m.**, at the Gideon and Agnes Pond House, 401 East 104th Street.